

What's New in the MPDC

MARCH 5, 2001

DC'S SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY SOON TO BE UNVEILED

Additional information about the Sex Offender Registry can be obtained from the MPDC's Sex Offender Registry Unit, at 202-727-4407, or via e-mail at soru@mpdc.org.

Information on registered sex offenders who live, work or attend school in the District of Columbia will soon be available through the MPDC's Web site and at district stations and other police facilities. DC's Sex Offender Registry includes photographs and descriptive information of registered sex offenders who have been released into the community, along with block-level address information and data about the offender's criminal conviction.

Announcement of the registry was delayed pending a decision by a federal judge in a lawsuit brought by the DC Public Defender Service on behalf of five "John Does." The judge's initial ruling on February 28 removes from the registry people convicted of sex crimes under DC's Youth Rehabilitation Act, and it temporarily directs the MPDC to post only the most serious class of sex offenders on the Web site registry. Under the Sex Offender Registration Act of 1999, the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency is responsible for the registration of all sex offenders covered by the law; the MPD is responsible for notifying the public about registered sex offenders. In addition to the Web site, the MPDC will place binders containing sex offender information in police district stations, substations and other facilities.

CRIME SOLVERS: TWO "OPERATION SMACKDOWN" SUSPECTS SOUGHT

In addition to the regular rewards provided through Crime Solvers, the MPDC offers a \$10,000 reward to anyone who provides information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for any unsolved homicide committed in the District of Columbia. Get details about some of DC's Most Wanted at:

www.mpd.org
(Click on Crimesolvers)

On December 6, 2000, members of various MPDC units served arrest and search warrants as part of a large, ongoing investigation of drug trafficking along the Georgia Avenue corridor in Northwest DC. Dubbed "Operation Smackdown," the eight-month investigation resulted in nearly two dozen arrests on various federal narcotics offenses and the recovery of sizeable quantities of cocaine and marijuana, along with weapons and cash. Two suspects indicted in "Operation Smackdown" remain at large, and the MPDC is looking for the public's help in finding them. A \$1,000 reward is being offered for information leading to the arrests of **Antonio Parham** and **Leroy Holman**, both of Northwest DC. Additional information, including photos of the two suspects, can be accessed at:

www.mpd.org (Click on Crimesolvers and select ROC-North)

CHIEF RAMSEY WELCOMES NEW YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

For more information about the Youth Advisory Council, as well as other youth crime prevention efforts in the MPDC, contact Assistant Chief Rodney Monroe, at 202-727-7752, or via e-mail at rdmonroe@mpdc.org.

While juvenile crime has fallen sharply in recent years, relations between the police and young people have remain strained in many areas. To help bridge the gap in DC, Chief Ramsey recently asked that a Youth Advisory Council be formed to provide the Chief and other MPDC executives with information and insights into issues involving young people and the police. Containing representatives from all parts of the city, the newly established Youth Advisory Council (YAC) met with the Chief for the first time on March 1.

Like the Chief's (adult) Advisory Council, the YAC will meet on a regular basis to update MPDC leadership on public safety issues affecting young people and to develop projects that enhance police-youth relations.

UPCOMING: MAYOR'S MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS LUNCHEON

Each year, the DC Chamber of Commerce and the Mayor of the District of Columbia come together to honor those police officers, firefighters and emergency medical personnel who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in serving the residents of DC. This year's awards luncheon will be held on Wednesday, March 21, from 12 noon to 2 pm, at the Capital Hilton, 16th & K Streets, NW. For more information, or to request tickets, call the DCCC's Director of Special Events at 202-638-7347. Eleven MPDC officers from various units will be honored during this year's luncheon. Read about their meritorious efforts by going to:

www.mpdc.org (Click on Heroes of the MPDC)

RED-LIGHT RUNNING DOWN 59% AT INTERSECTIONS WITH CAMERAS

Eighteen months ago, the MPDC began using cameras to cite motorists who run red lights in the District. Since then, red-light violations have fallen 59 percent at the 39 intersections equipped with the devices – a reduction nearly 50 percent higher than the national average of 40 percent. The number of violations captured on film at these 39 locations has dropped from 37,823 to 15,516 per month over the course of the program. Each red-light violation carries a \$75 fine, although no points are currently being assessed against violators caught by the cameras. From August 1999 through January 2001, more than 190,000 photo enforcement citations were mailed and more than \$9.8 million in fines collected by the District.

Complete information about DC's red-light camera program – including a map of camera locations and a diagram of how the technology works – can be found at:

www.mpdc.org
(Click on Services & Programs)

Information, ideas or comments about this service?

E-mail Kevin Morison, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at kmorison_mpdc@excite.com.

Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with crimereports.com.

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE
WWW.MPDC.ORG